

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1 - 14. (Withdrawn)

15. (Currently Amended) A ~~composition of matter comprising a purified soluble Candidate Plasticity Gene-15 (s-CPG15) polypeptide comprising of an amino acid sequence having at least 85% sequence identity to SEQ ID NO: 1, and having at least one s-CPG15 biological activity selected from the group consisting of: biological activity.~~
a) the ability to promote cell survival,
b) the ability to promote cell differentiation, and
c) the ability to prevent or reduce cell death.

16. (Currently Amended) ~~The composition The purified s-CPG15 polypeptide of claim 15, wherein said s-CPG15 polypeptide lacks further comprises either a signal sequence or a GPI linkage sequence- or a signal sequence, but not both.~~

17. (Withdrawn) The composition of claim 16, wherein said s-CPG15 lacks a signal sequence and a GPI-linkage sequence.

18. (Currently Amended) The ~~compositionpolypeptide~~ of claim 1715, wherein ~~the~~ soluble CPG15 lacking a signal sequence and a GPI linkage sequence has the *in vitro* biological activity of a CPG15 protein, wherein is purified from a cell culture, in which a CPG15 protein has undergone all of the following modifications:

- a) the signal sequence and the GPI linkage sequence of said CPG15 protein have been cleaved;
- b) said CPG15 protein has been bound to a cell membrane; and
- c) said CPG15 protein has been released from the cell, into the supernatant of said cell culture,

wherein said CPG15 released into the supernatant is the soluble CPG15.

19. (Cancelled) The composition of claim 17, wherein said s-CPG15 comprises the sequence of SEQ ID NO: 1.

20. (Currently Amended) The ~~compositionpolypeptide~~ of claim 1715, wherein said s-CPG15 comprises a post-translational modification.

21 - 23. (Withdrawn)

24-28. (Cancelled)

29. (Withdrawn)

30. (Cancelled)

31. (Withdrawn)

32. (Cancelled)

33-34. (Withdrawn)

35-37. (Cancelled)

38-39. (Withdrawn)

40. (Cancelled)

41-58. (Withdrawn)

59. (New) The purified polypeptide of claim 15, said polypeptide comprising an amino acid sequence having at least 90% sequence identity to SEQ ID NO: 1.

60. (New) The purified polypeptide of claim 15, said polypeptide comprising an amino acid sequence having at least 95% sequence identity to SEQ ID NO: 1.

61. (New) The polypeptide of claim 59 comprising the sequence of SEQ ID NO: 1.

62. (New) The polypeptide of claim 15, wherein said s-CPG15 is at least 85% pure.

63. (New) The polypeptide of claim 15, wherein said s-CPG15 is at least 90% pure.

64. (New) The polypeptide of claim 15, wherein said s-CPG15 is at least 95% pure.

65. (New) The polypeptide of claim 18, wherein said s-CPG15 is at least 85% pure.

66. (New) The polypeptide of claim 18, wherein said s-CPG15 is at least 90% pure.

67. (New) The polypeptide of claim 18, wherein said s-CPG15 is at least 95% pure.

68. (New) The polypeptide of claim 20, wherein said s-CPG15 is at least 85% pure.

69. (New) The polypeptide of claim 20, wherein said s-CPG15 is at least 90% pure.

70. (New) The polypeptide of claim 20, wherein said s-CPG15 is at least 95% pure.